

II. Remarks

A. Status of the Claims

Claims 24, 27-31 and 36-38 will be pending after entry of this amendment. Claims 1-23 and 33-35 were previously cancelled and claims 25-26 and 32 have been cancelled herein without prejudice. Claims 24, 27, 28 and 31 have been amended without prejudice, and new claims 36-38 have been added. Support for the amendments and the new claims can be found throughout the application as originally filed, specifically, e.g., in original claims 25-26, 29-30 and 32. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added by virtue of this amendment.

B. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

In the Final Office Action, claims 24 and 29-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for allegedly containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventors had possession of the claimed invention at the time the application was filed. However, the Examiner indicated that claims 25-28 and 32 contained allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants disagree with the Examiner's assertions with respect to this rejection, and hereby state for the record that it is Applicants' position that the specification adequately describes the claimed invention in such a way to reasonably convey the inventors had possession of the present invention. However, in order to expedite prosecution of the application, the claims have been amended, as suggested by the Examiner, to include the limitations of claims 25, 28 and 32. As the Examiner indicated that claims 25-28 and 32 contained allowable subject matter,

Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance and request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph be removed.

III. Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that issues may be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (973)597-6162. The undersigned also may be contacted via e-mail at epietrowski@lowenstein.com. All correspondence should be directed to our address listed below.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1358.

Respectfully submitted,
Lowenstein Sandler PC

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s /Elizabeth Pietrowski/
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